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1 FEBRUARY 1966
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DIEN BIEN PHU AIRFIELD
NORTH VIETNAM
2123N 10301E

Declassification Review by NGA/DoD
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1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS RECONSTRUCTION AT DIEN BIEN PHU AIRFIELD
BETWEEN 13 AND 23 JANUARY 1966.

2.

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3. LOCATION:

DIEN BIEN PHU AIRFIELD IS LOCATED 0.5 NM NORTH OF DIEN BIEN PHU, JUST
WEST OF THE NAM YOUN (RIVER).

4. REMARKS:

STRIKE DATA REPORTS THAT THE AIRFIELD WAS STRUCK ON 2 JULY, 8 JULY AND
10 OCTOBER 1965. CUMULATIVE DAMAGE AS OF 10 OCTOBER CONSISTED OF

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AT LEAST TWENTY-FIVE BOMB CRATERS ON THE RUNWAY.

5. DIMENSIONS, PRE-STRIKE:

THE AIRFIELD HAD ONE SERVICEABLE 4000 X 90 FT, NNW/SSE, ASPHALT AND LATERITE RUNWAY. FACILITIES INCLUDED A WEATHER STATION, THREE BARRACKS, ONE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, TWO STORAGE BUILDINGS, AND THREE SUPPORT BUILDINGS.

6. MISSION READOUTS:

[REDACTED] REVEALS NO RECONSTRUCTION EVIDENT AT DIEN BIEN PHU AIRFIELD WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF FILLING ACTIVITY AT ONE BOMB CRATER.

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[REDACTED] REVEAL RECONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AT THE AIRFIELD. THE SOUTHERN END OF THE RUNWAY HAS BEEN EXTENDED 600 FT BY FRESH GROUND CLEARING AND AGGREGATE HAS BEEN SPREAD ON A 300 X 90 FT AREA OF THE RUNWAY BEGINNING 1400 FT FROM THE SOUTH END. AT PRESENT A TOTAL EFFECTIVE LANDING AREA 2100 X 90 FT IS AVAILABLE AT THE SOUTHERN END OF THE FIELD. NEW RUNWAY LANDING MARKINGS ARE OBSERVED ON THE SOUTHERN END OF THE FIELD AND ON THE EXTENSION.

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AT LEAST SEVEN PARACHUTES (TWO NOT SHOWN ON GRAPHIC) ARE OBSERVED WEST AND SOUTHWEST OF THE AIRFIELD.

NO AIRCRAFT ARE OBSERVED AT THE AIRFIELD ON THESE THREE MISSIONS.

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PREPARED BY: NPIC/CSD

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